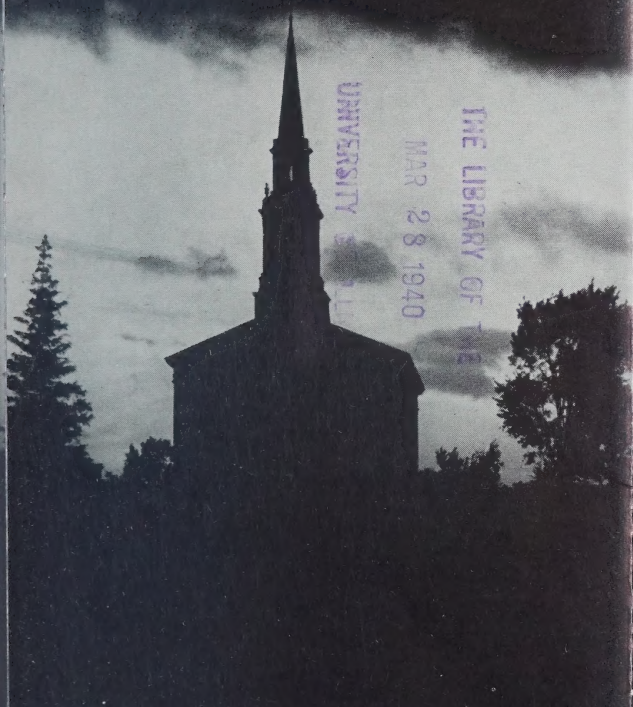


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# Middlebury College Bulletin

December, 1938

Middlebury, Vermont



UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS - URBANA

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About

# MIDDLEBURY VERMONT

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS - URBANA



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## POINTS OF INTEREST

**Middlebury College.** College Street and Storrs Avenue. Buildings of special interest include Painter Hall (1816) oldest college building in Vermont, Old Chapel (1836), Mead Chapel (1916), and the Château (1925). The Library, open to visitors, has one wing devoted to Americana including the famous Abernethy collection of American first editions. See college map and description for location of principal offices and buildings.

**Sheldon Museum.** Park Street. Finest museum in New England for representation of typical village life of a century ago. Country store, library, colonial kitchen and dining room, tool shop, collection of firearms, college room of 1800.

**Community House.** Main Street (opp. Congregational Church). Original home of Battell family. Lounges open to visitors.

**Congregational Church.** Head of Main Street. Completed in 1809. Excellent example of American adaptation of Christopher Wren tradition in church architecture.

**Gamaliel Painter House.** Corner Court and Pleasant Streets. (opp. Middlebury Inn). Built in 1802 by Gamaliel Painter, one of the founders of Middlebury. Not open to public.

**Shard Villa.** Six miles south of Middlebury on old Creek road to Salisbury. Home of the eminent 19th century lawyer Columbus Smith. Fantastic murals and wall decorations of the Victorian period, executed by an Italian artist, Spezzoli.

**Chipman Hill.** Entrance from Route 7.  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile north of village. Automobile road ascends to summit. Superb panorama of Champlain Valley, the Adirondacks and Green Mountains from lookout tower. Ski jumping, slalom runs and ski tow in winter. (See Winter Sports)

**Bread Loaf.** 12 miles east via East Middlebury and Ripton. Bread Loaf is an Inn, a mountain, a summer colony and a famous English School in the heart of the 15,000-acre mountain campus of the college. Lectures, musicals, and theatre open to the public during July and August.

**Morgan Horse Farm.** 2 miles via Weybridge Street. Government farm where the world-renowned Morgan Horse is bred.

**Lake Dunmore.** 10 miles south on route 7 and optional route to Lake. One of the most beautiful lakes in Vermont, overshadowed by Mt. Moosalamoo. Public swimming and boating at Branbury Beach (east side) and Waterhouse's (west side).

**Hotels and Accommodations.** Middlebury Inn and Sargent House. The Middlebury Inn is a charming colonial hotel with spacious homelike lobbies, excellent dining room, coffee shop, bar and terrace garden. Accommodations may also be found in private homes and cabins at standard rates. Good restaurants in town.



*Country store of the 1800's—Sheldon Museum*

## SHELDON MUSEUM

In the Sheldon Museum the history of Middlebury as well as typical folkways of New England may be visualized in terms of tools, clothes, furniture, books, guns, carriages, medicines—the essentials as well as the trivia of 19th century living. The museum is unique in that practically every item in its fourteen rooms was once a part of some Middlebury home. These items have all been assembled to reconstruct a country store, a library, a dormitory room, a colonial kitchen and bedroom, a tool shed, exactly as they were a century ago. In variety as well as completeness of display the museum has no equal in New England. The checkerboard on top of the cracker barrel in the store appears just as it might have been left by some oldster in 1840. The cornhusk mattress in the dormitory room is precisely as an undergraduate of 1810 would have made it up, and the page in his Greek text is still open on his high desk. The Victorian room speaks eloquently for the 70's and 80's, completely arranged from the framed hair wreath and carpetbag to the whatnot in the corner. An auction poster of fifty years ago would scarcely touch upon the thousands of items displayed in the museum: china and glassware, grandfather, banjo, and shelf clocks, pianofortes and pianos, lighting equipment, scores of Windsor chairs, spinning wheels and weaving equipment, farm and building tools, American primitive paintings, guns and muskets used from 1760–1860.

*Open May to November, daily except Tuesday 9:00 to 5:00  
Sunday 2:00 to 5:00.*





Battell Shelter—Lincoln Mountain

**Lincoln Mt.**—via Lincoln Gap (2.5 miles). Approach via Bristol, Lincoln, and Lincoln Gap. Only steep climbing is from Battell Lodge, a half mile to the summit, which is above the timber line offering excellent views.

**Lincoln Mt.**—via Atkins farm (2.5 miles). Approach via Bristol and Lincoln. Ask for directions at Lincoln. Steady climb to summit.

**Hikes from Bread Loaf.** Many trails of varying distances radiate from Bread Loaf. Since these walks are generally short, average trip time rather than distances are given.

**Boyce Lodge and Burnt Hill** (4 hours). At Bread Loaf Inn barns keep right and follow foot path across Brandy Brook bridge. Ascend road to Gilmore House and wood road extension to Gilmore meadow. Tagged brush stumps are only markers across meadow. Burnt Hill trail enters forest at east end. Blue blazes to lodge. Marked side trail leads to Burnt Hill Lookout.

**Fire Tower Hill** (1 hour). At the Inn barns keep right and follow foot path across the Brandy Brook bridge. Cross the road, and follow the wheel track through the Kirby pasture to the top of the meadow. (Fine views of Worth and Romance Mountains.) Enter the woods near the sugar house and follow the blue blazes. Stone cairns have been erected in the open places. The lookout at the summit is now destroyed.

**Pleiad Lookout** (2.5 hours). Take car to Middlebury Gap. Trail south leads to Pleiad Lodge, Pleiad Lake, and to steep bluff above Lake.

**Silent Cliff** (2.5 hours). Take car to Middlebury Gap. Trail north to sheer cliff overlooking Gap and surrounding mountains.

**Widow's Clearing** (1 hour). Take marked cart road opposite the Inn annex. Follow this south, enter spruce woods and cross the Middlebury River on foot bridge, the trail continues south and climbs steeply. At the Widow's Clearing Ski Trail sign, turn right and follow trail into the clearing. View to north includes Bread Loaf, Battell, Boyce Mts., and Burnt Hill Lookout. From the southeast corner of the Clearing a continuation of the trail leads to Clark's Clearing.

**Hikes near Middlebury.** Bittersweet Falls path, Chipman Hill and Snake Mountain, as well as numerous back roads in the vicinity offer good possibilities for horseback-riding, as well as hiking.

**Bittersweet Falls** (2 hours). Take car to Weybridge Hill. Turn left around monument. First right turn marked G.Mt.H.A. leads to Falls which are located in a wooded ravine a half mile down this road.



Chipman Hill Ski Jump

**Chipman Hill** (1.5 hours). There are two main entrances, both about a half mile from the center of town: via Seminary Street, or from North Pleasant Street (Route 7 north) near the college ski jump. A number of trails as well as an automobile road lead to the summit (820 ft.). From the tower there are excellent views of Addison County and adjacent mountains.

**Moosalamoo Mt.**—Cascades Trail (3 hours). Take car to point 200 yards south of power plant east of lake. Beaten trail adjacent to stream and water pipe leads to mountain road. Follow road along stream to bridge. Turn left and follow steep trail to Rattlesnake Point.

**Otter Creek.** An exciting half day's exploration trip may be made by following the shore line of Otter Creek north as far as Belden's Falls. The east bank is more interesting, offering considerable variety in cliffs, pasture land and virgin forest. The trip is advantageously taken early in the winter when tributaries are frozen, making long detours from the creek unnecessary.

**Snake Mt.** (Day trip). Approach via Weybridge and Addison (west of mountain) to Grand View carriage road. Easy mountain road winds to summit. A lookout commands wide views of Champlain valley east and west.

## WINTER SPORTS

As a ski center Middlebury has few rivals in Vermont, but the town and immediate environs are in the 80-inch snow zone so that ideal snow conditions cannot be expected throughout the winter. Deep snow, however, can be counted on in the Bread Loaf area, twelve miles to the east, and both town and college skiing activities are transferred there during unfavorable weather in the valley. A new ski lodge is located east of Bread Loaf.

On the east side of Chipman Hill is an excellent open slope with ski tow for amateur running as well as for practice of more experienced skiers. Information on skiing and weather conditions may be obtained from D. D.

Butterfield, Main Street. Trudging trails, intermediate and speed trails totaling several miles are cut in the Hill. On the west slope is a 30-meter jump, one of the best in the east. Slalom courses are also laid out near the jump. This is the site of the annual Middlebury College winter carnival. Dates for 1939 are February 17-19, for 1940, February 16-18.

Details for trails in the Bread Loaf and Ripton area are as follows:

**Burnt Hill Run** (north of highway)—Length 1.6 mi, width 40-100 ft., vert. descent 1400 ft.; lower .7 mi with 500 ft. descent suitable for beginners and intermediates; upper .9 mi. for advanced and expert skiers. Trail offers speed, sharp turns and steep grades.

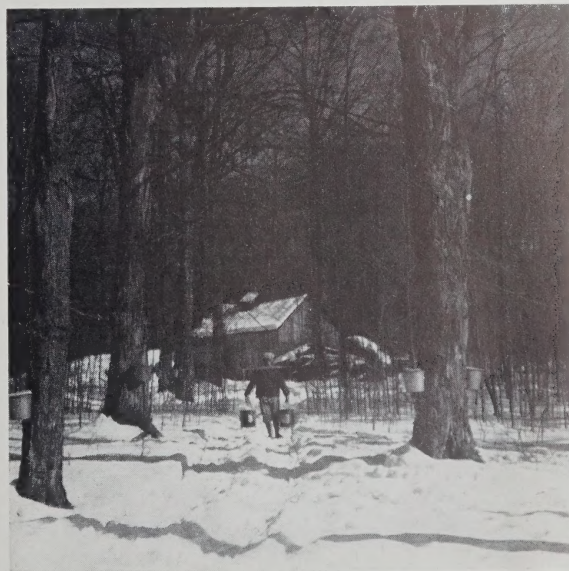
**Intermediate Trail** (south of road above Crystal Brook)—Length 1.2 mi., width 50 ft., vert. descent 1000 ft. Consistent grade winding down N. W. slope for intermediate or advanced skiers.

**Lake Pleiad Trail** (south of highway .5 mi. from Crystal brook; reached by trudging trail)—Length .8 mi. vert. descent 900 ft., sharp curves and steep grades to thrill the advanced skier. Start of trail joins "Intermediate" about 100 yards from top.

Many wood roads radiating from Bread Loaf will also be found exciting for amateurs and intermediates.

During the winter, weekly trips to various points in the Green Mountains are planned by the College Mountain Club.

Two outdoor skating rinks are located on the college campuses (for student use) and another off College Street. A toboggan chute east of route 7 on Chipman Hill is also available. Hockey games and other intercollegiate events are scheduled by the college athletic department during the winter.



Sugar Bush





*Middlebury College—Women's College of Middlebury*

## MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE

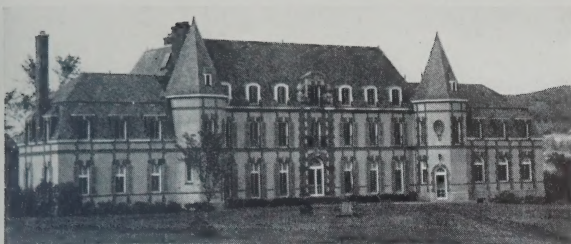
Middlebury College was founded in 1800. It was indigenous, a product of 19th century democracy, financed from the thin purses of local citizens, and expressive of multi-form culture brought from southern New England. A miller, two lawyers, a doctor, and President Timothy Dwight of Yale University conceived the first plan for Middlebury College on the night of September 30, 1798.

Some thirty log cabins and frame houses, surrounded by wilderness, comprised the settlement of Middlebury at the time. No road had yet been built to the pioneer village. The State of Vermont as a part of the Union was only seven years old and its Legislature still roved from town to town for its annual meeting. Grist and saw mills, a few shops for mechanics and blacksmiths, a rough inn, and a brewery offered the principal commercial accent to the village. A church had not even been constructed. Still the establishment of a college as well as a grammar school seemed imperative to these immigrants from Connecticut. A charter was granted on November 1, 1800, a President appointed, and seven students were admitted the following day.

From this inauspicious beginning Middlebury has grown to comprise two colleges, five segregated summer language schools and a Music Center. The enrollment in Middlebury College (men) is 421. The Women's College of Middlebury, adjacent to the men's campus, enrolls 369.

The college was originally established for men. Women were first admitted in 1883. The men's campus is south of College Street and Battell Campus for women north of College Street. Although the two colleges are separate in name, they are governed by the same President and Trustees, and both men and women attend the same classes where enrollment does not warrant establishment of two segregated classes in a subject. Middlebury is a liberal arts college, most widely known for its work in languages, but there are equally strong departments in both social and natural sciences. No specialized vocational training is undertaken by the college. Among the 4000 alumni and alumnae business leads all other occupations, with educational work as a close second. There is also high representation in medicine, law, social work, ministry, engineering, journalism and publishing, government and public service.

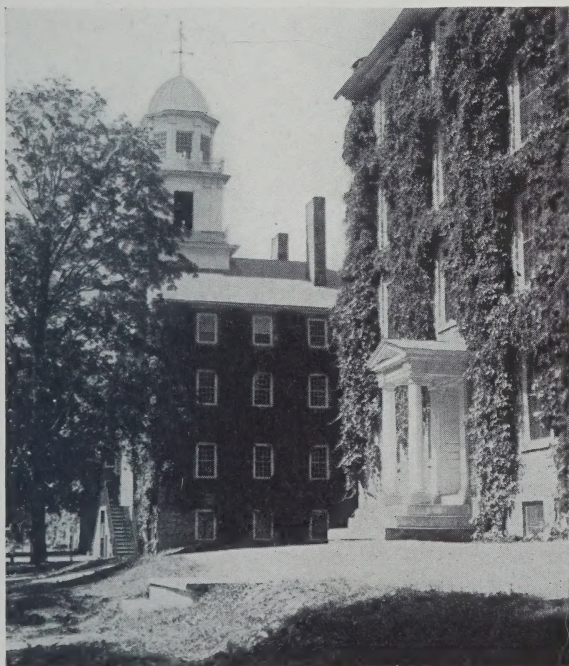




*Le Château, Center of Instruction in French*

During the summer the two campuses are used by schools of French, Spanish, and Italian. A German School is located in Bristol and the English School at Bread Loaf. The summer Music Center operates in conjunction with the other summer schools. The speaking of English is forbidden in the foreign language Schools. Each has its own theatre, social rooms, dormitories and dining halls. Sunday night musicals as well as lectures and entertainments during the summer are open to visitors.

Offices: Men's Admissions and Alumni—Old Chapel, 1st floor; President and Language Schools, 3rd floor; Women's Admissions, Deans, Registrar, Alumnae—Painter Hall, 1st floor. The Editor's Office in Painter Hall (middle division) supplies illustrated publications, catalogues and other bulletins of special information.



*Old Stone Row*

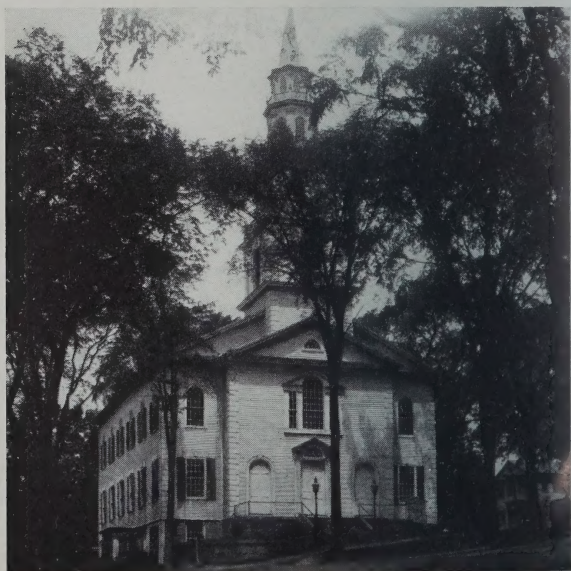
# MIDDLEBURY

## Village and Town

Middlebury is an attractive Vermont town with the advantages of a quiet rural setting and the cultural atmosphere contributed by an old college. It is located in the heart of the Champlain Valley between the Green Mountains and Adirondacks. Although mountains in the vicinity rise to a height of nearly 4000 feet, the altitude of Middlebury is only 366. The village with a population of 2000 centers about a picturesque fall of Otter Creek. The town was chartered as one of the "New Hampshire Grants" in 1761 and three years later became part of New York following the edict of King George III. For over two decades the Middlebury "town meetings" were held in Salisbury, Connecticut, where most of the property proprietors lived. The first permanent settlements were made in the Seeley district three miles south of the present village in 1773. The town was organized in the state of Vermont in 1786 and the village incorporated in 1832. During the 19th century it was a world center of sheep breeding and supported for periods of varying lengths paper, woolen, cotton, lumber and marble mills. It is known principally as a college community, and as a center for a rich dairy and fruit region. It is the shire town of Addison County. East Middlebury, four miles south, is incorporated as part of the town.

### FEATURES

**Theatre.** Two motion picture houses, the Town Hall and Campus, offer current shows in the town. Plays are presented during the summer at the Bread Loaf Little Theatre, and during the winter at The College Playhouse.



*Congregational Church*





Fresco after Fra Angelico—Shard Villa

Stage productions in French, Italian, and Spanish on the campus and in German at Bristol, may be of interest to visitors. Musicals sponsored by the schools are also open to the public. The Kingsland Marionette School at Lake Dunmore welcomes visitors.

**Museums.** In addition to the Sheldon Museum in Middlebury, other museums well worth seeing are the Strong House in Addison, Fort Ticonderoga opposite Larrabee's Point on Lake Champlain, Shard Villa near West Salisbury, the college Middleburiana Room and Coin Collection in Starr Library and the small Natural History Museum in Warner Science Hall.

**Transportation.** Rutland Railroad. Through service to Boston, New York and Montreal. Also bus service to the same points.

**Golf.** Excellent nine-hole course of the Middlebury Country Club. Courses also at Brandon and Bristol.

**Swimming and Boating.** Lake Dunmore offers the nearest public beaches. Branbury Beach is on the east side of the lake and Waterhouse's on the west. The most accessible public beach on Lake Champlain is at Burlington.

**Fishing.** East Middlebury River—brook trout and graylings. New Haven River—brook and rainbow trout. Lake Dunmore—bass, lake trout, northern pike, pout, salmon. Lake Pleiad, brook trout. Lake Champlain—catfish, horn-pout, large mouth bass, muskallonge, northern pike, pike perch, sheephead, small mouth bass, and yellow perch.

**Hunting.** Deer, bear, partridge, woodcock, duck, rabbit, and gray squirrel.

**Riding.** Stables in town provide excellent horses for riding on the many dirt roads and trails in the vicinity.



Middlebury Golf Course

**Churches.** Baptist, Catholic, Congregational, Episcopal, and Methodist. During the College year daily chapel services are held in Mead Chapel at 10 a. m. and Sunday vespers at 5 p. m. In summer a French service is held in the Chapel each Sunday at 11 a. m. Visitors are welcome at any of these services.

## HIKING

**Long Trail.** Middlebury is one of the principal centers for hiking on the Long Trail. This mountain trail extends the full length of Vermont, crossing all of the peaks in the higher range of Green Mountains. The nearest entrances are at Middlebury Gap (15 miles), Brandon Gap (22 miles), Sherburne Pass (42 miles), Lincoln Gap (20 miles) and Huntington Center (32 miles). Shelters on the trail are built at easy day-hiking intervals. Anyone planning to do extensive hiking on the Long Trail should procure a Long Trail Guide (50c) published by the Green Mountain Club, Inc., Rutland, Vt.

The following day trips are recommended for those who have transportation to trail approaches. The distances given are from trail entrance to destination.

**White Rock Mt.** (3.2 miles). Approach via Brandon and Brandon Gap. Abrupt but easy rock climbing to Mt. Horrid, Great Cliffs and Cape Lookoff.

**Bread Loaf Mt.**—via Emily Proctor Shelter (2.5 miles). Approach via Bristol, South Lincoln and Johnson's lumber camp. The wood road from South Lincoln to the lumber area is steep and rough, but safe for cars not built too low. Climb to Emily Proctor Lodge over easy up-grade, from there to Bread Loaf Shelter, steeper through picturesque Gorge. Lookout tower on summit.

**Bread Loaf Mt.**—via Middlebury Gap (6.5 miles). Approach via East Middlebury and Bread Loaf. Follow Long Trail north from Middlebury Gap over Burnt Hill, Boyce and Battell Mts. Long for a single day's hike.

**Camel's Hump.** (3.5 miles). Approach via Bristol, Starksboro, Huntington Center. Second highest peak in State. Superb views from summit. Ascent may be made via Montclair Glen Shelter on south west side of mountain and descent to same point via trail on northwest side.



# MIDDLEBURY



Middlebury's Mountain Sky Line



Rural Addison County

Lake Champlain Bridge



Folklore—Ottie Creek



## SCENIC DRIVES

The following drives are principally in Addison County and are suggested as typical half-day trips in the vicinity of Middlebury. Most of the touring indicated is on little-traveled dirt roads which offer the best in Vermont scenery. Since Middlebury is centrally located in Vermont, any point in the state may be reached in a day's drive with ample time for return. For longer trips consult "Vermont," American Guide Series, published by Houghton Mifflin Co.

**Granville Gulf** (round trip 80 miles). Route 7 south to Brandon. Route 115 to Rochester over Brandon Gap. (Altitude 2184.) Magnificent view of Champlain Valley. Lake Champlain and Adirondacks. Steep but easy descent to Rochester. The drive from Rochester to Granville (Route 100) is through a closed valley with mountains rising sharply on either side. For five miles an excellent road winds through Granville Gulf State Forest. Butter-milk Falls is one of the finest woodland falls in the State. At Warren take Route 117 to Lincoln and Bristol. This mountain pass for about three miles is one of the steepest in Vermont but during the summer the road is in good condition. At Lincoln Gap (alt. 2424) the Long Trail is crossed. Road descends sharply along New Haven River, to Lincoln and Bristol. 1/2 mile west of Bristol take River road back to Route 7 and Middlebury.

**Texas Falls** (round trip 35 miles). Route 7 to East Middlebury. Route 125 to Ripton and Bread Loaf. Dirt road ascends through picturesque gorge to Ripton. Bread Loaf four miles beyond is the home of the Middlebury College English School. At Middlebury Gap (alt. 2140) the road crosses the Long Trail and a half-mile walk may be taken on the trail to Pleiad Lake, a beautiful spring-fed lake enclosed in the mountains. About a mile east of the Gap a stop may be made at Bailey's falls. Trail to the foot of falls runs a hundred yards from the road. A turn left from Route 125 before Hancock leads to Texas Falls. Picnic and camp areas are provided. A short trail on the east side of the stream leads to the base of the falls where a succession of gigantic potholes are seen. Return trip may be made over same route or via Hancock, Warren, and Lincoln. (See Granville Gulf Drive.)

**Ripton-Lincoln Road** (round trip 30 miles). Take right fork at east end of Washington Street and next left at college spruce planting. Abrupt right turn at school house to East Middlebury. Road through Gorge to Ripton. Opposite Ripton store take left turn to Lincoln. Road winds through rough but picturesque farm land and at the highest point overlooks South Lincoln backed by the sharp peak of Mount Abraham. This is one of the most magnificent panoramas in the state. Return may be made via South Lincoln, Lincoln, and Bristol, or better via the Lake Notch Road. In case the latter is chosen instead of descending to South Lincoln take abrupt left turn at Lathrop farm. This road leads up for about a mile and commands an extensive view of Lake Champlain, then descends through a gorge to Route 116. Turn left to Middlebury.

**Lake Champlain** (round trip 50 miles). Route 7 to Vergennes. Left turn at center of Vergennes to Basin Harbor. From Basin Harbor follow roads nearest lake through Panton to Chimney Point. At Chimney Point take Route 19 to Bridport and Middlebury. Few roads follow Lake Champlain shore for any great distance. The above offers the best views of the lake.



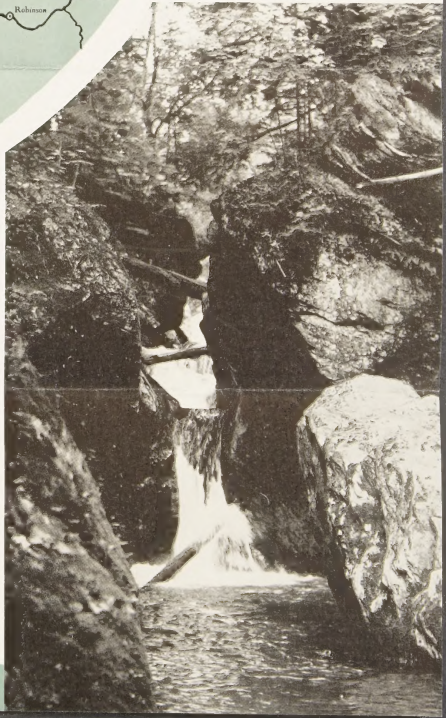
French School Play



Middlebury Inn



Lake Damore  
(Below) Texas Falls



The Long Trail



German Folk Dancing—Bristol



Library and Little Theatre—Bread Loaf



Ripton Gorge  
(Below) Ripton-Lincoln Mountain Road

